

APPROVED
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
MEETING MINUTES OF
April 28, 2008

TIME The meeting convened at 6:32 P.M.

PRESENT Chair Lord-Hausman, Commissioners Berger, Longley-Cook, Fort, Kirola, Robinson and Kreitz.

ABSENT Vice-Chair Moore

MINUTES

The March 24, 2008 minutes were approved with the following correction: under Old Business, item number two, the last two sentences were deleted, as that was not reflected in the discussions.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

There was no written communication.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Draft Pedestrian Plan (Gail Payne, PW):

Gail Payne, Transportation Coordinator, gave a presentation on the Draft Pedestrian Plan, which included the executive summary, vision goals and policies, outreach, existing conditions and implementation.

Commissioner Berger asked if the number of residents with disabled license plate placards were included in the update, to which Ms. Payne replied they were not, however, they will get that information from DMV. Chair Lord-Hausman suggested checking with the Census Bureau.

Commissioner Berger asked what the multi-modal plan includes, to which Ms. Payne responded it includes all different types of transit operations.

Commissioner Kirola asked if the timing at pedestrian signals could be adjusted to extend walking times within the crosswalks, to which Ms. Payne replied yes, and signal timing issues are addressed under the Implementation Section.

Commissioner Berger suggested looking at more recent data under Bus Stop Boards, as the current data is two years old, to which Ms. Payne agreed to do.

Chair Lord-Hausman asked if the updated information would be implemented over years, to which Ms. Payne responded yes, as the Plan would not be updated again for another five to ten years. Chair Lord-Hausman requested that PW provide another update to the Commission in the fall.

Commissioner Kirola asked if funding would come from tax and grants, to which Ms. Payne responded that all monies are strictly from transportation funding and not being drawn from the General Fund of the City.

Commissioner Berger asked that the material for the walkway improvements not be slippery, to which Ms. Payne replied that process will be addressed within the Public Walkway Project and Pedestrian Guidelines.

Chair Lord-Hausman asked if the proposed improvements along Shoreline Drive be addressed sooner than later, to which Ms. Payne replied that Shoreline Drive is not identified as high priority due to lack of funding, however, it is considered an important improvement as part of the overall Plan update.

Ms. Payne thanked the Commission for their input.

2. Estuary Crossing Feasibility Study Update (Gail Payne, PW):

Gail Payne, Transportation Coordinator handed out information regarding the feasibility study currently underway. The City has selected a consultant to assist in that effort. There is a public meeting scheduled for May 17, 2008 and anticipated it will be completed in the fall.

Commissioner Berger stated that if Oakland is only contributing \$10,000 to the study, is the City (Oakland) committed to the project, to which Ms. Payne replied yes. Oakland has the study ranked as a high priority project in its redevelopment and Bicycle Master Plans. The City has a good relationship with Oakland and, in terms of the estuary study, it is more of Alameda's issue as the City (Alameda) is the lead agency.

OLD BUSINESS

1. 2007 CDI Accomplishments (Chair Lord-Hausman):

Chair Lord-Hausman distributed the updated list of CDI accomplishments from 2006-2007 and suggested that the Commission review it and provide any further comments to her. The 2008 accomplishments continue to be worked on.

2. Path Between Crown & Washington Parks (Chair Lord-Hausman):

Chair Lord-Hausman stated the accessibility improvements along the pathway are done and look nice.

3. Disability Parking at City Events (Chair Lord-Hausman):

Chair Lord-Hausman stated that, as part of the agreement with the City, the Earth Day event would include accessible temporary parking.

4. Commission Recruitment (Chair Lord-Hausman):

Chair Lord-Hausman stated she had not received any new applications from prospective applicants and encouraged everyone to spread the word about open vacancies on the Commission.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

1. Secretary Akil stated the presentation of the draft ADA Transition Plan would be presented to the Commission at the May 27, 2008 meeting and would also be noticed as a community-wide meeting. A printed version of the draft Plan would be available for review in several City offices prior to the meeting date. More information will be mailed to the Commission in advance as well. Secretary Akil explained that the delay of the presentation to the CDI was due to internal approval and presentation to affected City departments.
2. Secretary Akil provided information from Barry Bergman, PW Transportation Coordinator, requesting that a representative from the CDI join the Bike Plan Task Force as they begin to update the Plan.

Commissioner Longley-Cook asked about the frequency of the meetings, to which Chair Lord-Hausman responded that it is similar to the Pedestrian Plan Task Force, which does not meet on a weekly basis, only as needed.

Commissioner Kreitz agreed to join the Task Force as the CDI representative, to which Secretary Akil indicated that she would inform Mr. Bergman.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

1. Cathy Nielsen, SSHRB member, stated she had received the letter that the CDI had sent to the Social Services Human Relations Board (SSHRB) regarding County medical funding for low-income/disabled individuals and wanted to discuss those items.

Chair Lord-Hausman responded that she was not aware if the letter was distributed to all of the SSHRB members and requested that she return to a future meeting to discuss that issue, to which Ms. Nielsen agreed.

2. Buena Vista Commons:

Chair Lord-Hausman stated that one of the low-income homes would be accessible for a disabled household.

3. Chair Lord-Hausman read and distributed a news article on the California Chamber of Commerce regarding the Chamber's urging its members to join its Advancing Disability Access Coalition in support of statewide efforts to achieve better compliance with disability access laws.
4. Commissioner Berger stated that there is no buzzer located at the back of the Alameda Free Library building under the outside handicap placard for assistance. Also, there needs to be another changing table installed in one of the library restrooms to allow more space for the disabled.

Secretary Akil stated she would send an email to Jane Chisaki regarding these two issues and get back to the Commission with the findings.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M. The next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, May 27, 2008, at 6:30 P.M. in Room 360 at City Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucretia A. Akil
Commission Secretary